

- REMARKS / ARGUMENTS -

Claims 1 to 30 are remain pending in this application.

Claims 1 and 15 are amended as detailed hereinbelow.

Summary of the Examiner's office action

Claims 1 to 30 are objected to under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Otto (US 5,008,6012).

Rejection of Claims 1-30 under 35 USC §102(b) using Otto (US 5,008,6012)

The Office Action states that claims 1 to 30 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Otto.

For anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102, the reference "must teach every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. Any feature not directly taught must be inherently present." (MPEP §706.02). "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

Otto does not anticipate neither claim 1 nor claims 8, 15, 21, 23 and 24 since some of the elements of the claims are not found in Otto. The Applicant's detailed arguments are set out below.

Otto describes a current sensing apparatus utilising a transformer as the sensing element, the core of which undergoes cyclic saturation. The current to be sensed flows through the primary winding and induces a current representative of the current to be sensed into the secondary winding. The secondary winding carries a cyclic current which causes saturation of the core in a cyclic fashion. This is not the case in the claimed invention. This will be further discussed below.

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Otto does not disclose voltage regulation of a variable source in a primary circuit to provide a regulated voltage output in the primary circuit by controlling an operation of a secondary circuit. It instead provides, in a secondary circuit, a current representative of a current flowing in the primary circuit, by controlling an operation of the secondary circuit. The Final Office Action argues that the "regulated output" is not positively recited in the claims. This is not correct, but for clarity, the Applicant has amended claim 1 at lines 15-16 to read "said regulated output in said primary circuit". Claim 15 has also been amended in a similar fashion. All other remaining independent claims have a similar limitation, and hence do positively recite the regulated output voltage. However, this was not discussed in the Final Office Action (OA).

The Final OA further argues that just because a unit senses current does not mean it cannot provide a regulated current to a load and hence be a voltage regulator. The Final OA further states "In this case the output is regulated to be proportional to the input." There is a contradiction in terms and understanding here.

First, Otto never suggests or implies to use its current sensor as a voltage regulator. As such, this makes the 102(b) anticipation rejection improper.

Second, a person skilled in the art would understand that, a voltage regulator is a circuit used for controlling and maintaining a voltage at a **constant** level (in this case, from a variable voltage and frequency source), not at a **proportional** level to the input. If the person skilled in the art were to use Otto's circuit to produce a voltage, the result would be, as stated in the Final OA, **proportional** to the input. Otto's circuit therefore **cannot** work in regulating the voltage output in the primary circuit.

Additionally, in Otto's apparatus, saturation of the core "oscillates in a steady cyclic pattern" (col. 3 lines 18-20, "the system will continue to oscillate in a steady cyclic pattern"), i.e., saturation is continuously active, without interruption, and is thus not selected alternatively to a voltage cancelling unit. Accordingly, the Office Action still does not show how Otto discloses a selection unit for selecting which unit is to be active.

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Finally, Otto does not disclose any feedback signal from the voltage regulated circuit. The Office Action still does not show how Otto discloses that voltage from point 107 acts as a feedback signal in its apparatus. For this reason also, the rejection is improper.

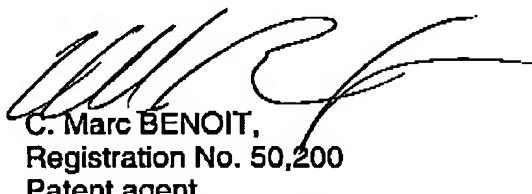
Applicants respectfully submit that Otto does not anticipate Claims 1, 8, 15, 21, 23 and 24 because it does not teach every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. Claims 2-7 are dependent on Claim 1, Claims 9-14 are dependent on Claim 8, Claims 16-20 are dependent on Claim 15, Claim 22 is dependent on Claim 21 and Claims 25-30 are dependent on Claim 24 and thus are also novel and non-obvious. Reconsideration of the 102(b) rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

It is believed that claims 1 to 30 are allowable over the prior art, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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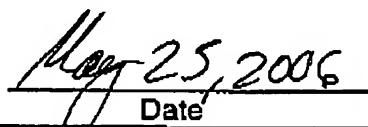
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